

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A catalyst comprising a catalytically active composition which contains a phase A and a phase B in the form of three-dimensional regions delimited from their local environment owing to their different chemical composition from their local ~~[[envi-ronment]]~~ environment, wherein phase A is a silver-vanadium oxide bronze and phase B a ~~[[mi-xed]]~~ mixed oxide phase based on titanium dioxide and vanadium pentoxide.

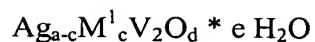
Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The catalyst according to claim 1, wherein the catalytically active composition is applied to an inert support.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The catalyst according to claim ~~[[1 or]]~~ 2, wherein phases A and B are distributed relative to one another as in a mixture of finely divided A and finely divided B.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The catalyst according to claim 2, wherein phases A and B are arranged relative to one another as concentric shells.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The catalyst according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the weight ratio of phase A to phase B is in the range from 85:15 to 95:5.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The catalyst according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein phase A has a composition ~~which is obtainable~~ obtained by calcining a multimetal oxide of ~~[[the]]~~ general formula I



I

~~where~~ wherein

~~a~~ has a value from 0.3 to 1.9,

M^1 is at least one metal selected from alkali metals and alkaline earth metals, Bi, Tl, Cu, Zn, Cd, Pb, Cr, Au, Al, Fe, Co, Ni, Mo, Nb, Ce, W, Mn, Ta, Pd, Pt, Ru and/or Rh,

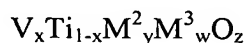
a has a value from 0.3 to 1.9,

c is a value from 0 to 0.5, with the proviso that $(a-c) \geq 0.1$,

d is a number which is determined by the valency and frequency of the elements in [[the]] formula I other than oxygen, and

e has a value from 0 to 20.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The catalyst according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein phase B has a composition of [[the]] formula II



II

~~where~~ wherein

M^2 is at least one alkali metal[[:]] ,

M^3 is an element of main group 5 of the Periodic Table of the Elements,

x has a value from 0.001 to 0.2,

y has a value from 0 to 0.01,

w has a value from 0 to 0.02, and

z is a number which is determined by the valency and frequency of the elements in [[the]] formula II other than oxygen.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing the catalyst according to claim 3, in which a powder which comprises phase A, a precursor therefor or sources of the elemental constituents thereof, and a powder [[B]] which comprises phase B, a precursor [[the-refor]] therefor or sources of the elemental constituents thereof are mixed and applied to [[an]] said inert support.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing the catalyst according to claim 4, in which (i) phase A, a precursor therefor or sources of the elemental constituents thereof and (ii) phase B, a precursor therefor or sources of the elemental constituents thereof are applied successively to [[an]] said inert support.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing aldehydes, carboxylic acids and/or carboxylic [[anhydri-des]] anhydrides, in which a gaseous stream which comprises an aromatic or heteroaromatic hydrocarbon and a molecular oxygen-containing gas are contacted at elevated temperature with the catalyst according to ~~any of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 10, in which the gaseous stream is passed successively over a bed of a catalyst disposed downstream and a bed of a catalyst disposed upstream, the bed of the catalyst disposed upstream containing ~~the catalyst according to any of claims 1 to 7~~ a catalyst composition which contains a phase A and a phase B in the form of three-dimensional regions delimited from their local environments owing to their different chemical composition from their local environment, wherein phase A is a silver-vanadium oxide bronze and phase B is a mixed oxide phase based on titanium dioxide and vanadium pentoxide and the bed of the catalyst disposed upstream

containing at least one catalyst whose catalytically active composition consists of a mixed oxide phase based on titanium dioxide and vanadium ~~[[pento-xide]]~~ pentoxide.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 10 ~~[[or 11]]~~, in which the aromatic hydrocarbon oxidized is o-xylene or naphthalene or a mixture of o-xylene and naphthalene to ~~[[gi-ve]]~~ give phthalic anhydride.